

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 1594 - SB 1396**

March 22, 2011

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires polling places to close at nine o'clock in the eastern time zone and eight o'clock in the central time zone on election day. Requires the county election commission to, no later than 30 days before election day, determine a uniform time for opening the polls on election day.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Expenditures - \$63,100/Per Election\***

Assumptions:

- Currently, the election commission must set the time for opening the polls no later than 15 days before election day. To extend this requirement to 30 days before the election will be not significant on local government.
- A majority of counties open at seven o'clock in the central time zone and eight o'clock in the Eastern Time zone. Closing the polls one hour later will add an additional hour to the length of time the polls are open on election day.
- According to the Coordinator of Elections' office, counties were surveyed relative to the cost of the additional hour of work on election day. The counties surveyed determined that the cost will be a minimum of \$63,093 for an August or November statewide election.
- In the 2012 election cycle, there will be a presidential preference primary, an August and a November general election. In the 2013 election cycle, there will be a May primary, an August and a November general election.

\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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